

# The American Legion

News: Local, State, National

**Pleas to Congress in Behalf of Ill and Wounded Ex-Servicemen To Be Part of Memorial Day Exercises**

**British Veterans Will Carry American Flag in Parade; Tri-State Reunion Opens at Sea Girt, N. J., June 14**

While due homage is to be paid to the soldiers of the country who made the great sacrifice in action overseas, at Memorial Day services in this state, those who still live and are broken in body as a result of the war are to be honored by speakers throughout the New York department of the American Legion.

State Commander Charles G. Blacklee, in a statement issued yesterday, asked that the various speakers remember the sick, wounded and disabled.

"It has occurred to me," he said, "that we might serve a duty to the living as well as give a testimony to the dead if on Memorial Day speakers at all exercises conducted by the posts of the Legion and other societies would make reference to the country's debt to the wounded and disabled and to the shameful neglect which the government has shown. These boys have been characterized as 'the living dead of the A. E. F.'"

Members of the Legion also were asked by Commander Blacklee to make an active campaign among their representatives in Congress to see that legislation to relieve the distress of veterans is hurried through at Washington.

Commander Blacklee has requested each post commander to see that each member in the organization shall, on June 1, write a letter to his Senator and Representative demanding attention be given to the way in which these men have been treated by the government. The veterans are requested to write on the same day so that the full force of the Legion's influence may be felt in Congress at a time when decisive and organized blow may be struck in behalf of the veterans.

**British Veterans Still Critics**

Legionnaires who feared the renewal of an old controversy over what flags should be carried in the parade Memorial Day were relieved by the action taken recently by the British Great War Veterans Association in this city.

When the British veterans announced that they would carry the British colors there was a protest from several organizations, and the question was taken up with the association by Colonel Watkins, marshal of the parade in New York County. The reply of the British was to the point, "We will march on Memorial Day," they announced, "to honor our dead. No controversy shall be permitted to mar such a demonstration. This organization's representatives in the parade will carry the American flag."

**\$100,000 Fund for Veterans**

Representatives of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the New York National Guard, it is planned, will sit on a joint board of control to administer the \$100,000 fund the Veterans of Foreign Wars are endeavoring to raise to provide adequate housing facilities for ex-service men attending vocational schools and colleges in greater New York and her former soldiers, sailors and marines who are transients in the city awaiting adjustment of their claims.

The lack of comfortable, inexpensive lodgings is one of the most vital phases of the ex-service man's problem. Contributions may be sent to James J. Rick, treasurer, 522 Fifth Avenue.

**Officers' Reunion Planned**

A call for a reunion of all officers who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the World War and are now living in New York, New Jersey and Delaware was issued yesterday by Colonel N. F. Feury, of Jersey City, commander of the 2d Department of the Military Order of the World War. The men will go "under canvas" at the New Jersey state camp, Sea Girt, from June 14 to 17. The care of the disabled veterans and plans for a peace time army and navy will be the keynote of the convention discussion. Reservations for the camp are being received in large numbers in national headquarters, 253 Madison Avenue, New York.

**POST ACTIVITIES**

The 306th Machine Gun Battalion Post will meet to-morrow night at the 77th Division Club House, 27 West Twenty-fifth Street. All former members are urged to attend.

David W. Gentile Post is entertaining the patients of Seton Hospital, at Riverdale, who are unable to leave the grounds to attend the theater.

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## Legion Opposed to U. S. Withdrawal From Rhine

**Resolution Declares Recall of American Troops Should Be Left to Harding**

WASHINGTON, May 25.—A resolution disapproving the proposal in Congress for immediate withdrawal of American forces from Germany was adopted to-night by the national committee on military policy of the American Legion. Referring to the resolution introduced by Representative Hamilton Fish, of New York, the committee went on record against the "withdrawal of American forces on the Rhine by Congressional resolution," and declared the question as to when they properly should be withdrawn should be left to the discretion of the President.

The committee, which to-night finished a two day's session here, also took up the question of alleged discrimination against National Guard and emergency army officers in the recent army promotions. Members charged that although the law provides that not less than 50 per cent of vacancies in the army should be filled by emergency officers, "practically all the appointments to emergency officers recently have been in the grades of lieutenants and captains, while all appointments of higher grades went to West Pointers."

It was decided to take the matter up with Secretary Weeks, Chief of Staff March and General Pershing.

**Dewey's Flagship at Manila Reaches Philadelphia Yard**

PHILADELPHIA, May 25.—The famous old cruiser Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship at the Battle of Manila, arrived at the Philadelphia navy yard to-day, after fourteen months of service as flagship of the Adriatic detachment of the American fleet. The craft is commanded by Captain H. L. Wyman. Rear Admiral Andrews, whose flagship the Olympia has been, was ordered to remain in Italy on temporary duty.

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## Gen. Wood's Auto Plunges Into River, But He Is Unhurt

**Slips Off Philippines Ferry Landing and Chief of U. S. Mission, With 20 Men, Work Hour to Get It Out**

TUGEGARIO, Cagayan Province, Philippine Islands, May 21 (By The Associated Press) (Delayed).—The automobile of Major General Leonard Wood, one of the chief members of the mission investigating conditions in the Philippines at the request of President Harding, fell into Pinacananan River, near the Cabaganger route, here yesterday while being ferried across the stream. General Wood escaped uninjured, but an hour was required to pull the machine from the water.

Twenty men, including General Wood, tugged at the rope until the car finally was hoisted up to dry land. The mishap occurred when the automobile slipped from the ferry at the landing.

LAOAG, Ilocos Norte Province, P. I., May 24 (By The Associated Press).—The two sections of the Wood-Forbes Presidential mission investigating conditions in the Philippines met here to-day, 211 miles north of Manila, after one week of divided inquiry. The section under Major General Leonard Wood traversed the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela and Cagayan in northern Luzon, while the section under W. Cameron Forbes visited the mountain provinces in the northwest of the island.

General Wood was greeted here by a large meeting in the Laoag City Hall. Miss Anastasia P. Galano, treasurer of the Federation of Women's Clubs of the Philippines, spoke in favor of granting immediate independence, as well as woman suffrage and full enforcement of prohibition. All Filipinos who spoke here favored independence in some form, either with an American protectorate, or if that were impossible, then absolute freedom.

In reply General Wood said that the mission was not interested in the opinions of political groups and that there could not be a stable government without impartial administration of justice.

Off Fuga Island yesterday General Wood fished for two hours, hauling in eighty pounds of fish, including a thirty-seven pound mackerel.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—General Wood and W. Cameron Forbes have been invited by the Government of China to visit that country when they have concluded their present mission in the Philippines, it was learned at the War Department to-day. They will accept their invitation, it was said, and will spend some time in China before returning to the United States.

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## In Justice to John Bohan Investigation Shows He Never Was Convicted of a Crime

The Tribune on June 18, 1920, in an article narrating activities of the police in the investigation of the death of Joseph Bowne Elwell, made mention of John Bohan, private watchman at West Seventieth Street, Manhattan.

Relying upon information given out at the District Attorney's office, The Tribune said that Bohan "has a police record" and that "he has been arrested three times." In using the expression "police record" The Tribune intended to refer to the records of the arrests, all of which culminated in Bohan's discharge from custody as innocent, and The Tribune did not charge or intend to charge that Bohan had a criminal record.

In justice to Bohan and at his request, The Tribune has made an investigation which shows that he has never been convicted of crime and that in the case of each of the arrests mentioned which were two in number and not three, he was discharged from custody by the courts after examination of the facts.

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